

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 BNDE-00 CIAE-00 INR-10 IO-13 JUSE-00

NSAE-00 RSC-01 SNM-02 SY-10 TRSE-00 USIA-12 NSC-10

SCI-06 OMB-01 IGA-02 AGR-20 SS-15 DODE-00 HEW-08 L-03

AID-20 RSR-01 /147 W

----- 098587

R 151016 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9670

INFO AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMCONSUL KARACHI

AMCONSUL LAHORE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ISLAMABAD 4881

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SNAR, PK

SUBJ: NARCOTICS: PLANS FOR ELIMINATION OF OPIUM
PRODUCTION

REF: ISLAMABAD 4584

1. SUMMARY. NEW NARCOTICS CONTROL BOARD (NCB) PLANNING
DOCUMENT ESTIMATES TOTAL OPIUM PRODUCTION IN PAKISTAN
AT 237 TO 275 MT ON 19,000 TO 22,000 ACRES. NCB PRO-
JECTS PHASE- OUT OF SETTLED AREA PRODUCTION OVER THREE
YEARS, BUT NOTES THAT ELIMINATION COULD BE EXPEDITED
IF ADEQUATE ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE BECOMES AVAILABLE.
NWFP DEVELOPMENT BODIES, WITH ASSISTANCE FROM GOP
PLANNING COMMISSION, HAVE BEEN TASKED WITH PLANNING
ERADICATION PROGRAMS IN MERGED AND TRIBAL AREAS, BUT

NO TARGET DATES FOR ERADICATION ARE MENTIONED IN DOCUMENT.
PAPERS LISTS AS ELEMENTS OF POSSIBLE " COMPENSATION"
PROGRAM SEVERAL ITEMS WHICH COULD BE INCORPORATED
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IN PROJECTED USAID BARANI PROJECT FOR NWFP. END
SUMMARY.

2. IN RESPONSE TO JUNE 11 MEETING WITH CHARGE (REFTEL),
QAMARUL ISLAM, DEPUTY CHAIRMAN PLANNING COMMISSION,
HAS FORWARDED TO EMBASSY NEWTS COMPLETED NCB PLANNING
PAPER ENTITLED " CONTROL ON OPIUM PRODUCTION AND
NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT IN PAKISTAN" (POUCHED JUNE 15
NEA/ PAB). THIS MESSAGE DEALS WITH PORTIONS OF PAPER
CONCERNED WITH PRODUCTION. DOCUMENT DRFTINGUISHES
BETWEEN SETTLED AREES, WHERE CONTROL IS SAID TO BE
" RELATIVELY EASY" AND MERGED AND TRIBAL AREAS WHERE
CONTROL IS VIEWED AS DIFFICULT. SEPARATE OPERATIVE
PLANS ARE OUTLINED FOR EACH AREA.

3. PRODUCTION ESTIMATES. ESTIMATES OF POPPY ACREAGE,
ON BASIS OF SURVEYS BY NWFP AUTHORITIES AND INDEPENDENTLY
BY NCB AGENTS, ARE PLACED AT 19,000 TO 22,000 ACRES,
WITH 6,000 ACRES IN SETTLED AREAS AND 13,000 TO 16,000
ACRES IN TRIBAL AND MERGED AREAS. BASED ON AVERAGE
YIELD OF 12.5 KG. PER ACRE, TOTAL PRODUCTION OF " DRY
OPIUM" IN PAKISTAN IS CALCULATED ROUGHLY AT 237,000 TO
275,000 KILOGRAMS.

4. SETTLED AREA ERADICATION. DOCUMENT STATES THAT
QUOTE STEPS WILL BE TAKEN WITH EFFECT FROM NEXT
GROWING SEASON TO START ELIMINATION OF UNLICENSED
CULTIVATION OF POPPY. ACREAGE UNDER LICENSED AREAS
WILL BE REDUCED DURING 1974-75 AND WILL BE COMPLETELY
ELIMINATED BY THE END OF 1975-76, EXCEPT FOR MEDICINAL
USES. TOTAL ETIHINATION OF POPPY CULTIVATION IN
SETTLED AREAS IS ADMINISTRATIVELY POSSIBLE EARLIER,
PROVIDED ACCEPTABLE COMPENSATION AND REHABILITATION
PLANS FOR POPPY CULTIVATORS MATERIALIZE AND FUNDS ARE
AVAILABLE. END QUOTE. PAPER STATES THAT COMMITTEE

COMPOSED OF REPS OF NCB, ECONOMIC AFFAIRS DIVISION
(FINANCE MINISTRY), AND NWFP GOVERNMENT IS BEING SET
UP TO WORK OUT DETAILED PLANS FOR ELIMINATION OF POPPY
AND ITS REPLACEMENT WITH ALTERNATE CROPS.

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5. MERGED AND TRIBAL AREAS. DOCUMENT REPORTS RECENT
MEETINGS ON ELIMINATION OF MERGED AND TRIBAL AREA
POPPY CULTIVATION WITH NWFP CHIEF SECRETARY, NWFP
DEVELOPMENT COMMISSIONER, REPS OF TRIBAL DEVELOPMENT
CORPORATION, AND ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, STATES AND
FRONTIER REGION DIVISION (BRIG. MAHMUD JAN), WHO HAVE
BEEN ASKED TO COME UP WITH ESTIMATES OF POPPY CULTI-

VATION AND TO FORMULATE PLANS FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT
IN THESE AREAS. PLANNING COMMISSION HAS AGREED TO
MEET COSTS OF SURVEYING AND PREPARING PLANS.

6. COMPENSATION/ UPLIFT PROJECTS. IN LIST OF PLANS
FOR " COMPENSATING/ REHABILITATING" POPPY FARMERS, CB
INCLUDES INTER ALIA PROVISION OF SMALL DAMS, TUBEWELLS,
CONNECTING ROADS, SUBSIDIES FOR FERTILIZER, SEEDS AND
IMPLEMENTS, CATTLE BREEDING, FRUIT ORCHARDS, SMALL
INDUSTRIES, TRANSPORT FACILITIES, AG EXTENSION
SERVICES, AND " COMPENSATION TO INDIVIDUALS."

7. COMMENT. MOST SURPRISING ASPECT OF DOCUMENT IS
VERY HIGH ESTIMATE OF TOTAL POPPY ACREAGE AND TOTAL
OPIUM PRODUCTION. WHILE FIGURE OF 6,000 ACRES AND
75 MT IS WITHIN RANGE OF WHAT WE HAVE BEEN ESTIMATING
FOR SETTLED AREAS, ACREAGE AND ESTIMATED TONNAGE
(160 TO 200 MT) FOR MERGED AND TRIBAL TERRITORIES
IS FAR HIGHER THAN ANYTHING WE HAVE PREVIOUSLY SEEN.
NCB HAS INDICATED WE WILL SHORTLY BE PROVIDED WITH
BREAKDOWN OF PRODUCTION ESTIMATES BY AREA. UNLIKE
PREVIOUS NARCOTICS BOARD, WHICH DRASTICALLY UNDER-
ESTIMATED PRODUCTION, NCB IS TAKING REALISTIC
APPROACH TO EXTENT OF OPIUM PRODUCTION AND DESERVES
FULL CREDIT.
SOBER

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AID-20 RSR-01 /147 W

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R 151016 Z JUN 73

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

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8. TIMETABLE PARA 4 FOR SETTLED AREA ERADICATION IS ABOUT WHAT WE EXPECTED GOP TO COME UP WITH AS COUNTER TO TEAM RECOMMENDATION. HOWEVER, PLAN LEAVES DOOR OPEN FOR EXPEDITED ERADICATION EFFORT, IF SUFFICIENT RESOURCES (E. G. EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE) BECOMES AVAILABLE, THUS UNDERLINING IMPORTANCE GOP ATTACHES TO US HELP ON PRODUCTION SIDE. NCB HAS ADOPTED SUGGESTION MADE BY EMBASSY TO ORAKZAI FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF PLANNING COMMITTEE, BUT APPEARS TO LIMIT ITS FIELD OF OPERATIONS TO SETTLED AREAS ONLY. PLANNING FOR MERGED AND TRIBAL AREAS CONSPICUOUSLY OMITTS ANY REFERENCE TO TIMETABLE FOR ERADICATION THERE, A RETREAT FROM ORAKZAI'S OBSERVATION TO EMBASSY REPS JUNE 11 THAT US TEAM TARGET DATE FOR MERGED AREAS SEEMED REASONABLE. INVOLVEMENT OF PLANNING COMMISSION IN PLANNING FOR MERGED AND TRIBAL AREAS IS STEP FORWARD, HOWEVER.

9. LIST OF COMPENSATION/ UPLIFT PROJECTS INCLUDES NUMBER OF ITEMS WHICH TEAM AND MISSION REPS HAVE
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SUGGESTED TO GOP OVER PAST NINE MONTHS, SUCH AS PROVISION OF FERTILIZER AND OTHER AGRICULTURAL INPUTS, RURAL ROADS, TUBEWELLS AND SUBSTITUTION OF FRUIT ORCHARDS IN CERTAIN FORMER POPPY AREAS. ALL THESE ITEMS COULD FIT IN VERY WELL WITH PROJECTED USAID BARANI AGRICULTURE PROGRAM. REFERENCE TO " COMPENSATION FOR INDIVIDUALS" MAY INDICATE THAT GOP HAS IN MIND IN ADDITION COMPENSATION PAYMENT TO INDIVIDUAL FARMERS, AN APPROACH WHICH WE HAVE DISCOURAGED HERE.
DECONTROL FOLLOWING 6/12/77
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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUN 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973ISLAMA04881
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: n/a
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: ISLAMABAD
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730620/aaaajbir.tel
Line Count: 216
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 73 ISLAMABAD 4584
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 DEC 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12-Dec-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <28-Dec-2001 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 980209
Subject: NARCOTICS: PLANS FOR ELIMINATION OF OPIUM PRODUCTION
TAGS: SNAR, PK
To: KABUL
KARACHI
LAHORE
NEA
SECSTATE WASHDC
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

